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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/895,997	06/28/2001	Shinya Hasegawa	2102475-991130	9340

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GRAY CARY WARE & FREIDENRICH LLP  
2000 UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
E. PALO ALTO, CA 94303-2248

EXAMINER
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CAO, CHUN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2115

DATE MAILED: 08/17/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/895,997

Applicant(s)

HASEGAWA, SHINYA

Examiner

Chun Cao

Art Unit

2115

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 June 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4-12 and 14-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3 and 13 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3.4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-20 are presented for examination.
2. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed. The current title is imprecise.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

4. Claims 1-2, 4-12 and 14-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Larky et al. (Larky), U.S. patent no. 6,092,210.

As per claim 1, Larky discloses a functional block [fig. 1 comprising:  
a system bus synchronizing with a system clock [col. 4, lines 8-11];  
a functional circuit synchronizing with a local clock [col. 3, line 66-col. 4, line 4];  
a synchronizing circuit [32] for determining the operation timing for signal exchange between said system bus and said functional circuit, wherein said synchronizing circuit takes in said system clock and said local clock and determines said operation timing by determining the access time of said functional circuit from said system clock [col. 5, lines 14-45].

As per claim 2, Larky discloses that synchronizing circuit takes in said system clock and said local clock and determines said operation timing by creating an access end signal for said functional circuit from said system clock [col. 4, lines 19-35].

Art Unit: 2115

As per claim 4, Larky discloses that synchronizing circuit determines the operation timing for signal exchange between said system bus and said functional circuit, regardless of the type of said system bus [col. 4, lines 19-35].

As per claim 5, Larky discloses that the frequency of said system clock is not fixed to a specific frequency [col. 1, line 66-col. 2, line 4].

As per claim 6, Larky discloses that the frequency of said system clock is given to create design data at a register [the clock frequency of the data stream] transfer level automatically [col. 1, line 66-col. 2, line 4; col. 4, lines 8-11].

5. As per claim 7, Larky discloses a functional block comprising:

a system bus synchronizing with a system clock [col. 4, lines 8-11];

a functional circuit synchronizing with a local clock [col. 3, line 66-col. 4, line 4];

a synchronizing circuit for determining the operation timing for signal exchange between said system bus and said functional circuit [col. 5, lines 14-45], wherein said functional circuit and said synchronizing circuit are integrated into an entity [fig .2].

As per claim 8, Larky discloses that synchronizing circuit determines the operation timing for signal exchange between said system bus and said functional circuit, regardless of the type of said system bus [col. 4, lines 19-35].

As to claims 9-10, Larky discloses that the frequency of said system clock is not fixed to a specific frequency as a result of the input of a frequency specifying signal to said synchronizing circuit [col. 1, line 66-col. 2, line 4; col. 4, line 5-17].

As to claims 11-12 and 14-16 are contained the same limitations as claims 1-2 and 4-6 respectively. Therefore, same rejection is applied.

Art Unit: 2115

As to claims 17-20 are contained the same limitations as claims 7-10 respectively. Therefore, same rejection is applied.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

6. Claims 3 and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

LaBerge, US patent no. 6,370,644, discloses an integrated circuit comprising a synchronizer for synchronizing host clock (system clock) with PCI clock (local clock) [col. 4, lines 38-52]

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121

Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chun Cao at (703) 308-6106. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30 am - 4:00 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by phone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor Thomas Lee can

Application/Control Number: 09/895,997

Page 5

Art Unit: 2115

be reached at (703) 305-9717. The fax number for this Art Unit is following: Official  
(703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should  
be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-5631.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chun Cao', with a stylized, cursive script.

Chun Cao

Aug. 12, 2004